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To: Regional Transportation Planning Agencies
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/s/ Original Signed By

From: Dianne McKenna, Chair of the CTC

Subject: **February 7, 2002 STIP Workshop**

The California Transportation Commission has scheduled a special 2002 STIP workshop. The purpose of the workshop is to develop criteria the Commission may use to reschedule 2002 STIP proposals. It also provides Caltrans and regional agencies a way to advise and assist the Commission in rescheduling the proposals.

At its January meeting, the Commission learned that most 2002 STIP proposals were heavily front-loaded in comparison with available STIP capacity. About 90% of the new STIP capacity is available only for the three new years being added by the 2002 STIP, FY 04-05 through FY 06-07. However, about 60% of the proposals made in the regional transportation improvement programs (RTIPs) and the Caltrans Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) added new project funding for FY 02-03 and FY 03-04. Nearly \$2.5 billion is already programmed for those two years in the 2000 STIP. The RTIPs and ITIP proposed to add more than \$2.4 billion for the same years, while the capacity remaining for those years is less than \$400 million. With the STIP amendments and allocations approved since the Fund Estimate, the capacity remaining for FY 02-03 now stands at less than \$10 million.

By law, the total amount programmed in each fiscal year of the STIP may not exceed the capacity identified in the STIP Fund Estimate. For the 1998 and 2000 STIPs, this was never an issue because extraordinary circumstances meant that new capacity was available even in the STIP's earliest years. With the 2002 STIP, however, we are returning to what was once the norm, that new programming is added primarily in the new years being added to the STIP. (This issue is discussed in Commission's 2001 Annual Report, Volume I, Chapter B, 2002 STIP Outlook. It is available online at the Commission's website, www.catc.ca.gov.)

At the workshop, we will be exploring ways to make the new 2002 STIP apply the available funding capacity to transportation improvements in the most effective way we can.

The workshop is scheduled for **February 7, 2002, 10:00 a.m. to noon, in Room 2116 of the Department of Transportation Building, 1120 N Street, Sacramento.** The Commission invites all transportation planning agencies and county transportation commissions to participate in the workshop and asks each participating agency to designate a single representative. To participate, please contact Mary Lea Filbert of the Commission office and tell her whom your representative will be. You may reach her by phone at 916-653-2096 or e-mail Mary_Lea_Filbert@dot.ca.gov

I look forward to meeting with you there.